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To: ehbarak1@gmail.com
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Date: Tue, 8/12/2014 8:30:01 AM
Subject: In today's FT: US gives military aidto Iraqi Kurds, Move against M...

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FINANCIAL TIMES

Tuesday August 12 2014

UK HOMEPAGE

US gives military aid to Iraqi Kurds

Under the cover of US air strikes, peshmerga fighters have regained the towns of Gwer and Makhmour – part of territory they lost to Isis – southwest of Erbil

Move against Maliki deepens Iraq crisis

Country's president names Haidar al-Abadi as new prime minister. US President Barack Obama interrupts holiday to endorse 'constitutional process'

Rich Kinder sees 'fertile' field for deals

The former Enron executive, whose stake in Kinder Morgan is worth almost $10bn, says plans for group companies to consolidate will allow it to become an active acquirer

VIDEO

What shale sale would mean to Shell

Lex's Robert Armstrong and Alan Livsey discuss what a sale by Shell of its 50 per cent stake in a Louisiana gasfield to private equity group Blackstone would mean for the oil major, if the deal goes ahead. The gasfield lies in the Haynesville Shale formation.

US HOMEPAGE

Tributes pour in for actor Robin Williams

He became a cult favourite with a generation of Americans in the late 1970s after his first breakthrough television role, as the zany alien Mork

US Fed's Fischer warns of poor growth

The weak labour market and a sluggish housing sector could point to structural shifts in the global economy, which are holding back the recovery

Kiev agrees to international aid convoy

Mission to Lugansk in eastern Ukraine will be led by the International Committee of the Red Cross, with the participation of EU, Germany and Russia

EUROPE HOMEPAGE

Erdogan victory triggers power struggle

Outgoing president Abdullah Gul announces return to the ruling AK party's ranks, where he could be seen as a challenge to outgoing PM's authority

Brazilians gatecrash banana merger

Brazilian billionaire Joseph Safra and Cutrale, the family-owned orange juice maker, make $610.5m cash offer for Chiquita, rivalling an all-stock bid from Ireland's Fyffes

BuzzFeed investment bucks news gloom

Soaring valuations for news and entertainment companies that were built for a mobile and social era contrast with print publishers' woes

ASIA HOMEPAGE

Actor Robin Williams found dead

The sheriff's coroner's division said it suspected the death was a suicide due to asphyxia, but the cause was still under investigation

London house price growth 'to slow to 3%'

Residential estate agent halves its 2015 forecast as impending general election and fears of a rate rise weigh on house price sentiment

Spotlight cast on due diligence in China

Risk adviser's trial, combined with other factors, has made businesses reassess how they carry out research before making investment decisions

WORLD NEWS

EU plans sanctions talks with LatAm

Brussels is to hold negotiations with countries such as Brazil and Chile to try to dissuade them from replacing banned European exports to Russia

Bulgaria's president attacks oligarchs

Bulgaria's president has criticised oligarchs and politicians for misappropriating public funds and vowed to clean up the procurement process

India faces conflicting pressures on food

Consumers' and farmers' interests are at odds as Narendra Modi seeks to please everyone with moves to cool onion prices but boost sugar

Ramaphosa defends actions over Marikana

South Africa's deputy president gives evidence to commission investigating police shooting and killing of 34 striking miners

Election exposes deep divisions in Sweden

Voters in Sweden, tired of shrinking public spending and tax cuts, are looking to centre-left parties for change at next month's election

COMPANIES NEWS

Condé Nast spins off shopping magazine

Joint venture with ecommerce site BeachMint will keep Anna Wintour as an adviser and put more emphasis on selling products to its audience

RBS to offload global Coutts division

Plan to split Coutts into its UK and global operations and to sell the latter reflects the bank's new strategy of refocusing on its domestic market

Barneys settles shoppers' racial case

Luxury retailer agrees to pay $525,000 after two customers were falsely accused by security staff of credit card fraud at its flagship store

Balfour Beatty rejects new Carillion deal

Construction group gives detailed breakdown of the reasons for rejecting the renewed approach, citing 'a number of significant risks'

JSW close to buying Lucchini steel assets

Indian steelmaker JSW Steel is close to buying the bankrupt Italian producer, in a sign of renewed interest in Europe's recovering steel market

MARKETS

Stocks rally as geopolitical fears ease

Equities advance as geopolitical tensions ease, with the S&P 500 closing up 0.3 per cent in New York. By contrast, demand for US Treasuries fell

China metal fraud taxes Mercuria and Citi

The fallout from the metals financing scandal in China continues to be felt with Citigroup and Mercuria wrestling over exposure to a $270m financing agreement

Political risk knocks Pakistan stocks

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif is facing demands by popular politician and former cricketer Imran Khan to step down, along with his government

Growth slows in emerging economies

Moody's has revised GDP growth forecasts for emerging market countries as high inflation and lower export demands from China weigh on their economies

ITV fuelled by more takeover speculation

Liberty Global has been widely rumoured to be considering a bid for ITV, but analysts are divided over whether it can afford the company

COMMENT

Merkel is willing to pay for world stability

Russia had expected the German chancellor to resist taking any action that would seriously affect German exporters. It was wrong

A creed that gnaws at the Tory vote

Demographic trends are remaking the country in its capital's freewheeling image. Losing London is tantamount now to losing Britain

Erdogan is the victor but not yet almighty

Next year's parliamentary elections will be more instrumental in determining the future path of Turkey and the sustainability of Mr Erdogan's political power

Equality is irrelevant with a richer poor

Seizing the assets of the 85 wealthiest people would raise the spending power of the poorest by less than 4p a day

A shock to Delhi's durbar culture

Modi is discouraging his cabinet ministers from excessive socialising in the capital lest they be seen as too cosy with special interests

MANAGEMENT

Bridges to span Amazon's dominance

There are several strategies book publishers can adopt to hit back at their biggest customer

In defence of angry office outbursts

The sanitisation of workplace feelings has gone too far but it requires practice for the normally placid, like me, to develop useful rages

Schedule workouts to fit your body clock

The time of day, and when and what to eat and drink, are integral to an exercise regime

Ebenezers Coffeehouse, Washington DC

A hidden gem that offers a refuge from the city's hectic pace, a great latte and a level of privacy that is elusive elsewhere

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